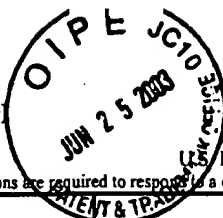


Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → [+]



PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	09/699,466
		Filing Date	October 31, 2000
		First Named Inventor	Shunpei YAMAZAKI et al.
		Group Art Unit	2829
		Examiner Name	A. Sarkar
Sheet 1 of 1	Attorney Docket Number	0756-2222	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
AKS		4,140,548		Zimmer	02/20/1979	
		5,210,050		Yamazaki et al.	05/11/1993	
		5,313,076		Yamazaki et al.	05/17/1994	
		5,365,080		Yamazaki et al.	11/15/1994	
		5,372,860		Fehlner et al.	12/13/1994	
		5,591,988		Arai et al.	01/07/1997	
		5,893,730		Yamazaki et al.	04/13/1999	
		5,913,111		Kataoka et al.	06/15/1999	
		5,929,527		Yamazaki et al.	07/27/1999	
		5,932,893		Miyanaga et al.	08/03/1999	
		5,949,107		Zhang	09/07/1999	
		6,011,275		Ohtani et al.	01/04/2000	
		6,031,249		Yamazaki et al.	02/29/2000	
		6,121,683		Yamazaki et al.	09/19/2000	
		6,133,073		Yamazaki et al.	10/17/2000	
		6,175,348		Zhang et al.	01/16/2001	
		6,177,302		Yamazaki et al.	01/23/2001	
		6,207,969		Yamazaki	03/27/2001	
		6,225,152		Yamazaki et al.	05/01/2001	
		6,278,132		Yamazaki et al.	08/21/2001	
		6,288,412		Hamada et al.	09/11/2001	
		6,323,072		Yamazaki et al.	11/27/2001	
AKS		6,331,718		Yamazaki et al.	12/18/2001	

RECEIVED
JUN 26 2003
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Office ³	Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			

Examiner Signature	A. Sarkar	Date Considered	4/3/06
--------------------	-----------	-----------------	--------

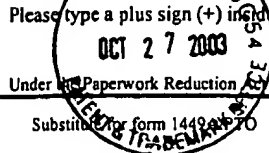
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → [+]



PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substituted for form 1449, PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	09/699,466
				Filing Date	October 31, 2000
				First Named Inventor	Shunpei YAMAZAKI et al.
				Group Art Unit	2829
Examiner Name	A. Sarkar				
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	0756-2222

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
AKS 		6,465,287		Yamazaki et al.	10/15/2002	
		6,482,686		Takemura	11/19/2002	
		6,495,404		Teramoto et al.	12/17/2002	
AKS		6,528,358		Yamazaki et al.	03/04/2003	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁴
		Office ²	Number ⁴	Kind Code ³ (if known)				

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²

Examiner Signature	Asst. Union Sarkar	Date Considered	4/3/06
--------------------	--------------------	-----------------	--------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → [+]

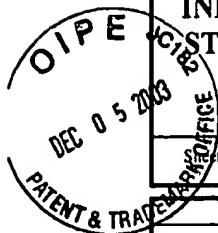
PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number	09/699,466
				Filing Date	October 31, 2000
				First Named Inventor	Shunpei YAMAZAKI et al.
				Group Art Unit	2829
				Examiner Name	A. Sarkar
1		of	1	Attorney Docket Number	0756-2222



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
AKS		5,970,327		Makita et al.	10/19/1999	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁴
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ³ (if known)				

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²

Examiner Signature	Asdu Munar Sarkar	Date Considered	4/3/06
--------------------	-------------------	-----------------	--------

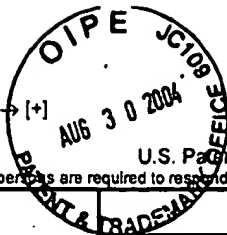
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → [+]



PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number	09/699,466
				Filing Date	October 31, 2000
				First Named Inventor	Shunpei YAMAZAKI et al.
				Group Art Unit	2829
				Examiner Name	A. Sarkar
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	0756-2222

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
AKS		6,162,704		Yamazaki et al.	12/19/2000	
		6,294,441		Yamazaki	09/25/2001	
		6,461,943		Yamazaki et al.	10/08/2002	
		6,620,711		Yamazaki	09/16/2003	
AKS		4,068,020		Reuschel	01/10/1978	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
AKS		JP	07-066425			03/10/1995		Abst. & U.S. Equiv.
		JP	08-045839			02/16/1996		Abst. & U.S. Equiv.
		JP	08-045840			02/16/1996		Abst. & U.S. Equiv.
		JP	08-097169			04/12/1996		Abst. & U.S. Equiv.
AKS		KR	96-005879			02/23/1996		U.S. Equiv.

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁷
AKS		Office Action, August 3, 1998, U.S. Serial No. 08/784,293 Filed January 16, 1997	
		Office Action, February 11, 1999, U.S. Serial No. 08/784,293 Filed January 16, 1997	
		Office Action, January 17, 2003, U.S. Serial No. 08/784,293 Filed January 16, 1997	
AKS		Specification, Abstract, Drawings, and Pending Claims, U.S. Serial No. 08/784,293 Filed January 16, 1997	

Examiner Signature	Asoh Umman Sarkar	Date Considered	4/3/06
--------------------	-------------------	-----------------	--------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → [+]



PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number	09/699,466
				Filing Date	October 31, 2000
				First Named Inventor	Shunpei YAMAZAKI et al.
				Group Art Unit	2829
				Examiner Name	A. Sarkar
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	0756-2222

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
AKS		2002/0025659		Yamazaki et al.	02/28/2002	
		2002/0048891		Yamazaki et al.	04/25/2002	
AKS		6,423,586		Yamazaki et al.	07/23/2002	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ²
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
AKS		JP	07-192998			07/28/1995		Abst.
AKS		JP	05-299339			11/12/1993		Abst.

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.		T ²

Examiner Signature	A. S. K. Sarkar	Date Considered	4/3/06
-----------------------	-----------------	--------------------	--------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.